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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT

TOPIC Soviet Troops in Schwerin

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EVALUATION

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PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 28 December 1951

REFERENCES

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PAGES

4

ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

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REMARKS

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1. All troops from the Schwerin (B 54/T 46) military post returned to their quarters by 23 November 1951. A unit of about 350 troops with artillery insignia, equipped with 11 x 122-mm artillery pieces 14 to 16 trucks, including 2 field kitchens, was detained at the freight station at 9 p.m. on 5 November.

A railroadman said that, during the night of 4 November, troops with rocket launchers, artillery pieces and trucks had been unloaded from two trains and moved to the Hindenburg Kaserne on Guestrowerstrasse. A unit which was unloaded at the Sternbuchholz freight station and moved to the Moltke Kaserne on Ludwigslusterstrasse at about 5:30 p.m. on 7 November consisted of 12 x 100-mm AT guns with 12 caterpillar tractors each carrying 3 soldiers and 8 trucks, each carrying about 20 soldiers and 1 field kitchen and 1 ambulance. A railroadman said that from 600 to 700 troops, about 20 trucks and some light AT guns were unloaded at the Sternbuchholz railroad station on 10 November. The rate of departure of troops going on furlough toward Stralsund and Rostock increased in early November. (1)

2. A march column which was seen coming from Goerri's airfield at 9 a.m. on 7 November consisted of a 14-piece brass band, a 10-piece drum and fife band, 1 lieutenant colonel, 2 majors, 12 other officers and about 160 troops marching in two units of equal size. (2)

3. About 800 troops assembled in the yard of Hindenburg Kaserne on Guestrowerstrasse on 7 November. In addition, 30 trucks and 3 rocket launchers were seen in the barracks yard. The number of troops in the installation on 22 November was estimated at about 800. Gate guards wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia.

4. On 22 November, the Fritsch Kaserne on Johann Stelling Strasse quartered 600 to 800 troops. Gate guards wore black-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia. Radio and telephone sections were seen leaving the billeting area.

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5. Seven 16-round rocket launchers and 3 x 76.2-mm artillery pieces were seen in the yard of the Moltke Kaserne on Ludwigslusterstrasse on 8 November. (B-3) On 20 November, the installation was occupied to capacity by about 1,000 troops. Gate guards wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. The troops were engaged in intensive training at squad level with and without small arms.

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6. On 20 November, the Krueger Kaserne on Ludwigslusterstrasse quartered about 1,000 troops. Gate guards wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. About 300 troops were seen drilling in the barracks yard, while about 400 troops with small arms received training at squad and platoon level in the training area beside the barracks installation.

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7. On 9 November, about 20 soldiers were seen practicing with two light 37-mm AA guns at the Adolf Hitler Kaserne. About 400 to 500 troops were seen receiving infantry training. On 14 November, in one orderly room Soviet women were receiving instruction in clerical work and the operation of telephones. Four 160-mm mortars and 500 to 600 troops with and without small arms were seen receiving training at squad level in the barracks yard. The number of troops in the Adolf Hitler Kaserne on 19 November was estimated at 2,200 to 2,500. Gate guards wore black-bordered red epaulets.

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8. A sentry wearing red-bordered black epaulets and vehicles were seen at the restricted area at the Schlossgarten quarter on 9 November. (2)

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9. A sentry observed in front of the DAF building on Hagenowerstrasse on 22 November wore red-bordered black epaulets.

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10. Between 13 and 17 November, billeting equipment from the Hindenburg Kaserne on Guestrowerstrasse was hauled toward Goerris airfield on trucks.

A local resident said that units from the Hindenburg Kaserne were moving to Goerris airfield where additional private quarters had been requisitioned by the Soviets. On 23 November, the Hindenburg Kaserne quartered about 700 troops. Specifically, 2 barracks buildings quartered artillery and motor transport troops, 1 building signal troops, 1 building troops with black-bordered red epaulets, and 1 building was vacant. The houses on Kaethe Kollwitz Strasse were vacated by the troops and were allegedly to be released for civilian use.

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1 On 23 November, the Fritsch Kaserne on Johann Stelling Strasse was  
 25X1 occupied almost to capacity by about 1,000 troops. Soldiers observed  
 25X1 wore: black-bordered black epaulets including some with signal and  
 motor transport insignia; red-bordered black epaulets, including some  
 with artillery insignia; and black-bordered red epaulets.

12 In late November, the the  
 25X1 headquarters in the restricted Schlossgarten area would move to  
 25X1 Goerris airfield. One German owning a house on Schlossgarten Allee  
 said that troops would vacate his house in December. On 21 November,  
 sedan with a general was identified in the restricted area.

13 On 31 October, a hutment of nine low wooden barracks buildings and  
 an adjoining training area was observed southwest of Zippendorf,  
 3 km southeast of Schwerin. About 50 soldiers with 3 x 57-mm AT  
 guns and 5 heavy machine guns were seen in the hutment. The AT guns  
 stood on an earth mound. Many soldiers were seen walking between  
 the hutment and the Moltke Kaserne on Ludwigslusterstrasse. (6)

14 Between 9 and 12 November, the Hindenburg Kaserne on Guestrowerstrasse  
 was occupied below capacity by about 800 troops who wore red-bordered  
 black epaulets, including some with artillery and tank insignia, and  
 black-bordered black epaulets. About 100 troops received physical  
 training on the barracks yard on 10 and 12 November. On 12 November,  
 numerous trucks with billeting equipment and troops started shuttling  
 from the Hindenburg Kaserne and the houses on Kaethe Kollwitz Strasse  
 to Goerris airfield. The trucks usually carried 2 officers and 6 to 8  
 troops to the airfield and only 2 soldiers when returning. Two trucks  
 were seen hauling two iron pontoons from the installation. By 15  
 25X1 November, the Hindenburg Kaserne was almost completely vacant and  
 25X1 troops had vacated the houses on Kaethe Kollwitz Strasse. Sentries  
 observed at the Hindenburg Kaserne on 15 November wore red-bordered  
 black epaulets and black-bordered red epaulets.

15 On 15 November, the Adolf Hitler Kaserne on Ludwigsluster Chaussee  
 25X1 quartered about 2,500 troops most of whom wore black-bordered red  
 25X1 epaulets and some, red-bordered black epaulets. A unit of 4 officers  
 and 100 EW wearing black-bordered red epaulets and carrying entrenching  
 tools entered the installation, and about 150 troops received basic  
 training in the barracks yard.

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Comments

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a 100-mm AT  
artillery unit with vehicles of the 18th Mecz Div  
has been stationed at Goerries airfield.

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Prior to the transfer of units from the Hindenburg Kaserne to Goerries airfield in the middle of November 1951, at least the 10th Gds RL Regt of the IX Mtz Rifle Corps and, probably, a bridge construction unit of the corps have been carried in the Hindenburg Kaserne. the bridge construction unit would not return to its quarters upon completion of the summer field exercises. The present report is not specific enough to allow conclusions regarding the units which were transferred to Goerries airfield. But it is believed that headquarters units of the IX Mtz Rifle Corps are being concentrated at this airfield.

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be determined whether units other than the 10th Gds RL Regt and the bridge construction unit have moved or will move to Goerries. The Hindenburg Kaserne was apparently reoccupied after 15 November 1951, because paragraph 10 of the present report states that the installation again quartered 700 troops, probably belonging to components of the 94th Gds Mtz Rifle Div. It is still undetermined whether the new troops in the Hindenburg Kaserne came from Schwerin or another military post in the divisional billeting area.

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The Holtke Kaserne and the Krueger Kaserne constitute a collective billeting area where, the 74th (Hv ?) Tank SP Regt and the 115th How Arty Regt of the 94th Gds Mtz Rifle Div and other artillery units, probably including the 136th Gun Arty Regt, are carried. The observation of rocket launchers on 8 November 1951 cannot be accounted for, because the 10th Gds RL Regt was probably located in the Hindenburg Kaserne up to 12 November 1951. The weapons observed in the Adolf Hitler Kaserne and the estimate of the number of troops stationed there support the belief that the installation quarters the 286th Mtz Rifle Regt and the 176th AAA Regt of Bn of the 94th Gds Mtz Rifle Div. A training area near the military post, with billeting space for units from Schwerin which go there for training.

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